

# RELIGIOUS INFORMER.

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All letters must be directed to Ebenezer Chase, P. M. Enfield, N. H.

Vol. V. No. 12. DECEMBER, 1824. Whole No. 60.

## STATE OF THE FREEWILL BAPTIST CONNEXION,

December, 1824.

There are seven Yearly Meetings in the United States, viz. Two in the State of Maine, one in New-Hampshire, one in Vermont, one in New-York, one in Ohio, and one partly in Pennsylvania and partly in New-York.

There are nineteen Quarterly Meetings, two hundred and twenty-two churches, and one hundred and eighty-seven ordained Elders, of which we have received accounts, and doubtless there are several churches and preachers that have not been returned.

Each Yearly Meeting is composed of Quarterly Meetings, Churches, and Preachers, which are as follows:

### MAINE.

In the State of Maine there are two Yearly Meetings. The first, or Western, comprising Parsonsfield and Gorham Quarterly Meetings; the second, or Eastern, comprising Edgecomb, Farmington, Montville, and Abington or Exeter Quarterly Meetings.

#### *The first, or Western Yearly Meeting.*

This meeting is holden annually, on the first Saturday and Sabbath in November, alternately at Parsonsfield, and Gorham or Buxton.

#### *Parsonsfield Quarterly Meeting.*

This meeting is holden four times in a year, on the third Wednesday and Thursdays in January, May, August and October.

### ORDAINED PREACHERS.

<i>Names.</i>	<i>Residence.</i>
John Buzzell,	Parsonsfield,
Christopher Bullock,	do.
Samuel Burbank,	Newfield,
Jeremiah Bullock,	Limington,
Jonathan Woodman,	Effingham,
Henry Hobbs,	Waterborough,
Richard Emery,	Lyman,
Joseph Goodwin,	Walls,

Humphrey Goodwin,  
 Mayhew Clark,  
 James Sawyer,  
 Elias Libby,  
 James Fly,  
 James Emery,  
 Joseph Davis,

Hollis,  
 Ossipee,  
 Porter,  
 Limerick,  
 Hiram,  
 Limington,  
 Ellingham.\*

There are several *unordained* preachers that belong to this Quarterly Meeting, who bid fair to be useful in the cause of Christ.

Number of Churches—*Sixteen*.

The Parsonsfield Quarterly Meeting has a permanent, or standing Clerk, but it is presumed that some of the Quarterly Meetings only appoint their clerks from meeting to meeting.

Elder *Henry Hobbs* is clerk of this Quarterly Meeting.

*Gorham Quarterly Meeting.*

This meeting is holden on the fourth Wednesdays and Thursdays in January, May, August and October.

ORDAINED PREACHERS.

<i>Names.</i>	<i>Residence.</i>
Zachariah Leach,	Raymond,
Zachariah Jordon,†	do.
Clement Phinney,†	Harrison,
Jonathan Clay, Jr.	Buxton,
George Parcher,	Saco,
William Woodsom,	Sumner,
William Cobb,	Otisfield,
Nathaniel Sturges,	Danville,
James Colley, Jr.	Gray.

There are several *unordained* preachers in good standing.  
 Number of Churches—*Thirteen*.

*The second; or Eastern Yearly Meeting.*

This meeting is holden annually on the first Saturday and Sabbath in September, alternately at Woolwich or its vicinity, and Mount-Vernon, or some other town within the bounds of the Farmington Quarterly Meeting.

*Edgecomb Quarterly Meeting.*

This meeting is holden on the third Saturday and Sabbath in January, March, and October, and the first in July.

ORDAINED PREACHERS.

<i>Names.</i>	<i>Residence.</i>
George Lamb,	Brunswick,
Stephen Bickford,	Boothbay,
William Emmerson,	do.
Jonathan Brown,	Bowdoinham,
Joseph Robinson,	do.
Humphrey Purrington,	Bowdoin,
Nathaniel Purrington,	do.
Christopher Tracy,	Durham,
Timothy Cunningham,	Edgecomb,

\*New-Hampshire, bordering on Maine.

†Travel extensive.

John Linton,  
Henry Meader,  
Josiah Farwell,  
Benjamin Thorn,  
Samuel Hinkley,  
David Webber,  
Barnabas Hedge,  
Jesse Briggs,  
John M. Bailey,  
Benaiah Pratt,

Georgetown,  
Gardiner,  
Not stationary,  
Lewistown,  
Georgetown,  
Squam Island,  
Wiscasset,  
Topsham,  
Woolwich,  
Not stationary.

James McCordy of Hallowell is an unordained preacher; also, John Hinkley of Georgetown, who received the approbation of the Quarterly Meeting, March 16, 1822.

#### CHURCHES.

The number of churches in December, 1822, was *sixteen*.

*Farmington Quarterly Meeting.*

It is not known when this meeting is holden.

#### ORDAINED PREACHERS.

<i>Names.</i>	<i>Residence.</i>
Ebenezer Scales,	Wilton,
Ebenezer Brown,	do.
John Foster,	Jay,
Ward Lock,	Chesterville,
Timothy Johnson,	Farmington,
Samuel Hutchings,	New-Portland,
William Paine,	Anson,
Edward Savage,	do.
John Trefethern,	Cornville,
Daniel Young,	Starks,
Henry Leach,	Unknown,
Thomas Dudley,	Mount Vernon,
Isaac Porter,	do.
Benjamin Tufts,	Philips.

#### CHURCHES.

At the time when the Atkinson or Exeter Qr. Meeting was organized, which is not long since, there were *thirty-four* churches, which belonged to this meeting. Several of those churches, east of the Kennebec, now belong to the new Q. M. The number of churches in Farmington Q. M. is, at present, indeterminate.

*Montville Quarterly Meeting.*

It is not yet ascertained on what day this meeting is holden.

#### ORDAINED PREACHERS.

<i>Names.</i>	<i>Residence.</i>
Samuel Whitney,	Brooks,
Moses M'Farland,	Montville,
John True,	do.
Samuel F. Whitten,	do.
Joseph Gowin,	do.
John Lamb,	Lincolnville,
Thomas M'Kenney,	do.
Abiezer Bridges,	Hope,

Simon Emery,  
 Lincoln Lewis,  
 Thomas Park,  
 Allen Files,  
 Ephraim Johnson,  
 Joab Brown,  
 Joseph Higgins,  
 Charles Warren,  
 Ebenezer Tasker,  
 Samuel Robbins,

Monroe,  
 Not stationary,  
 Prospect,  
 Not stationary,  
 Windsor,  
 Montville plantation,  
 Thorndike,  
 do.  
 Dixmont or Newburg,  
 Camden.

There are also several unordained preachers, who belong to this meeting.

The number of churches is unknown.

*Atkinson or Exeter Quarterly Meeting.*

Information has not yet been received of the times when this meeting is holden.

**ORDAINED PREACHERS.**

<i>Names.</i>	<i>Residence.</i>
Nathaniel Harvey,	Atkinson,
Asa Burnham,	Sebec,
Jesse Burnham,	Boarded,
Joseph Osgood,	Exeter,
Josiah Bartlet,	Garland,
Hubbard Chandler,	Northhill,
— Anthony,	Unknown,
Winthrop Frost,	Swanville,
John Page,	Unknown,
Thomas Lewis,	do.
William Knowles,	Harmony,
Samuel Wormwood,	Northhill.

Nothing can be correctly said with respect to the Churches. It is understood that the wilderness in this country blossoms like the rose.

**NEW-HAMPSHIRE YEARLY MEETING.**

This meeting is holden annually on the second Saturday and Sabbath in June, at such places, in the state of New-Hampshire, as is thought most proper to appoint from meeting to meeting. To this meeting belong three Qr. Meetings, viz. New-Durham, Sandwich, and Weare.

*New-Durham Quarterly Meeting.*

This meeting is holden on the same days, throughout the year, that Parsonsfield Quarterly Meeting is holden.

**ORDAINED PREACHERS.**

<i>Names.</i>	<i>Residence.</i>	<i>Names.</i>	<i>Residence.</i>
Moses Bean,	Candia,	Samuel B. Dyer,	Loudon,
Winthrop Young,	Canterbury,	Ebenezer Knowlton,	Pittsfield,
Peter Philbrick,	Deerfield,	William Saunders,	Strafford,
Abel Glidden,	Gilmanton,	Nathaniel Berry,	Farmington,
David Blaisdell,	Lebanon, Me.	Enoch Place,	Strafford,
Roger Copp,	do.	Nathaniel Wilson,	Barnstead,
William Buzzell,	Middleton,	John Knowles,	Gilmanton,
Jonathan Kenney,	New Durham,	Arthur Caverno,	Epsom.
Thomas Bell,	Newcastle,		

Number of Churches, 22. Many of the churches in this Q. Meeting are very large.

*Sandwich Quarterly Meeting.*

This meeting is holden on the Saturdays and Sabbaths following the third Wednesdays in January, May, August and October.

ORDAINED PREACHERS.

Names.	Residence.	Names.	Residence.
Daniel Elkins,	Adams,	— Fisk,	Newhampton,
William Cass,	Alexandria,	Joseph Quimby,	Sandwich,
Samuel Hazeltine,	Bartlett,	Dudley Pettingale,	do.
Joshua Quimby,	Lisbon,	Israel Blake,	Thornton,
Josiah Magoon,	Newhampton,	David Bean,	Tamworth,
Simeon Dana,	do.	Isaac Townsend,	Wolfborough,
Thomas Perkins,	do.	Number of Churches, 15.	

*Weare Quarterly Meeting.*

Is holden on the last Saturday and Sabbath in May, August, and October; three times in a year.

ORDAINED PREACHERS.

Names.	Residence.	Names.	Residence.
Benjamin Tollman,	Ashby, Mass.	William Dodge,	Sutton,
Jonathan Rowe,	Bradford,	Elijah Watson,	do.
Ebenezer Chase,	Enfield,	Hezekiah D. Buzzell,	Weare,
Timothy Morse,	Fishersfield,	Dexter Smith,	Weathersfield, Vt.
David Harriman,	Hopkinton,	David Cross,	Wilmot.
Solomon How,	Newport,		

Unordained Preachers—Joseph Watson, Warner, and Jesse Whitcher Weare.

CHURCHES AND MEMBERS.

Ashby and Fitchburg, Ms.	26	Sutton, 2d.	40
Bradford,	35	Weare,	143
Enfield,	37	Weathersfield and West Wind-	
Fishersfield, Sutton, & Goshen,	79	sor, Vt.	66
Newport,	81	Wilmot,	31
Springfield,	24	Dec. 1823, No. 546. 1824, 614	

*Vermont Yearly Meeting.*

This meeting is holden annually on the first Saturday and Sabbath in October. It has, belonging to it, three Quarterly Meetings, viz. Strafford, Huntington, and Wheelock.

*Strafford Quarterly Meeting.*

ORDAINED PREACHERS.

Names.	Residence.	Names.	Residence.
Daniel Batchelder,	Coventry,	Ziba Pope,	Randolph,
Nathaniel Bowles,	Corinth,	Aaron Buzzell,	Strafford,
Sep. Lathrop,	Groton,	Nathaniel King,	Tunbridge,
James Morgan,	Northfield,	George Hackett,	do.
Sylvanus Robinson,	do.	Thomas Muxley,	do.
		Number of Churches, 14.	

*Huntington Quarterly Meeting.*

## ORDAINED PREACHERS.

<i>Names.</i>	<i>Residence.</i>	<i>Names.</i>	<i>Residence.</i>
Samuel Webster,	Bolton,	B. Maynard,	Starksboro,
Calvin Huntley,	Duxbury,	Samuel Lord,	Waterbury,
Charles Bowles,	Huntington,	Pearly Hale,	Enosburgh,
Ziba Woodworth,	Montpelier,	John S. Carter,	Benson,
J. Wetherbee,	Stow,	Number of Churches, 11.	

*Wheelock Quarterly Meeting.*

## ORDAINED PREACHERS.

<i>Names.</i>	<i>Residence.</i>	<i>Names.</i>	<i>Residence.</i>
Daniel Quimby,	Lyndon,	Paul Holbrook,	Montpelier,
Jonathan Nelson,	Wheelock,	— Bugbee,	Burke,
Moses Norris,	Sutton,	Number of Churches, 14.	

## NEW-YORK.

There is one Yearly Meeting in this state, called the

*Holland Purchase Yearly Meeting,*

Which is holden on the last Saturday and Sabbath in August, annually. This meeting consists of four Quarterly Meetings, viz. Bethany, Benton, Erie, and Owego.

*Bethany Quarterly Meeting.*

## ORDAINED PREACHERS.

<i>Names.</i>	<i>Residence.</i>	<i>Names.</i>	<i>Residence.</i>
Nathaniel Brown,	Bethany,	Israel Crow,	Camillus,
Herman Jenkins,	do.	Jonathan N. Hinkley,	Parma,
Jonas Parmenter,	Attica,	Elisha Collins,	Covington,
John Norton, Jr.	Richmond,	Francis Turner,	Gaines.

*Unordained Preachers*—Jacob Crassey, Aldridge, Sidney Riley, Isaac Andrews, Attica, Smith Rogers, Barrington, Daniel Lyon, Ichabod Sheldon, Ontario, Ivory Holland, Pittsford, Eli Hannibal, ———

## CHURCHES AND MEMBERS.

Attica,	100	Ontario, 1st,	33
Alexander,	10	do. 2d,	18
Batavia and Elba,	7	Parma,	21
Bethany,	100	Pembroke,	18
Byron,	56	Sheldon,	16
Canada,	21	Waldo,	11
Clarkson,	63		
Gaines,	15		
			TOTAL, 487

*Benton Quarterly Meeting*

Is holden on Saturday and Sabbath, beginning the Saturday before the 2d Sabbath in January, May, August, and October. Elders' Conference, Friday preceding.

## ORDAINED PREACHERS.

<i>Names.</i>	<i>Residence.</i>	<i>Names.</i>	<i>Residence.</i>
Zebulon Dean,	Benton,	Samuel Bradford,*	Phelps,
Samuel Wire,	Barrington,	John Norton,	Richmond,
Solomon P. Colver,	Junius,	Menoah Delling,	Sodus.

\*Ordained May 2th, 1824.

*Unordained Preachers*—John Pratt, Barrington, David Marks, jr. Jr.  
Junius, Perry Johnstead, Middlesex.

## CHURCHES AND MEMBERS.

Benton,	29	Middlesex,	43
Barrington,	22	Phelps,	30
Bristol,	23	Richmond,	15
Brutus,	10	Sodus,	26
Cattin,	22	Scriba,	9
Charleston, Penna.	11	Stonyfork, Penn.	17
Galen,	9	Lyons,	8
Junius,	13	TOTAL,	287

*Erie Quarterly Meeting.*

ORDAINED PREACHERS.		Churches.	No. of mem.
Names.	Residence.	Boston,	48
Richard MCary,	Boston,	China,	31
Abraham Folsom,	Holland,	Concord,	23
Nathaniel Ketchum,	Pike.	Eden,	10
		Ellicottsville,	27
		Freedom,	22
		Holland,	unknown
		Pike,	16
		Sardainia,	10
		TOTAL,	137

*Owego Quarterly Meeting*

Is holden on the fourth Saturday and Sabbath in February, May, August, and October.

ORDAINED PREACHERS.		Churches.	No. of mem.
Names.	Residence.	Berkshire,	19
Amos Daniels,	Dryden,	Candor and Owego,	27
Edward E. Dodge,		Candor,	85
Asa Dodge, jr.	Travelling,	Dryden and Virgil,	28
Peter Saunders,	Owego,	Dryden and Caroline,	30
		Owego,	53
		Troy, Penn.	27
		TOTAL,	269

*Rhode-Island Quarterly Meeting*

Is holden on the second Saturday and Sabbath in January, May, August, and October.

ORDAINED PREACHERS.		Churches.	No. of mem.
Names.	Residence.	Burrilville,	161
Joseph White,	Gloucester,	Foster,	45
D. Williams,	do.	Gloucester,	45
Josiah Graves,	Middletown, Ct.	Mendon,	61
Reuben Allen,	Pawtucket,	Middletown, Ct.	30
Daniel Greene,	do.	Pawtucket,	69
J. W. Darling,	Traveling.	Rehoboth, Mass.	81
		Smithfield,	118
		Taunton, Mass.	62
		TOTAL,	672

Sister Susan Humes has the approbation of this Elders' Conference for the public improvement of her gift.

The R. I. Quarterly Meeting has not united itself to any Yearly Meeting, as there is none with which it could be accommodated, the distance is so great; but, from the present prospect, we may predict, that the time is not far distant, when a Quarterly Meeting will be formed in Connecticut, and another in Massachusetts, and of these, will be formed a Yearly Meeting in that region.

#### OHIO YEARLY MEETING.

This Yearly Meeting was organized in August last, and agreed to be holden annually on the second Saturday and Sabbath in October.

It is not ascertained, what number of Quarterly Meetings belong to this Yearly Meeting; but it is presumed that the one bearing the name of Athens, belongs to it; also the Miami.

#### Athens Quarterly Meeting.

It is not known the times this Quarterly Meeting is holden.

#### ORDAINED PREACHERS.

Names.	Residence.	Churches.	No. of mem.
John Sleeper,	Alexander,	Alexander,	32
J. E. Brown,	Rutland.	Columbia,	13
		Morgantown,	16

Unordained Preachers—J. Carpenter, Columbia, and Daniel Romine, Morgantown, all in Ohio.

#### Miami Quarterly Meeting.

This meeting is situated partly in Indiana, and partly in Ohio, adjoining. Ordained Preachers—Marcus Kilborn, Rising Sun, county of Switzerland. Benjamin Leavitt, county of Jefferson; Alexander Sebastian. These three Elders live in the state of Indiana. Moses Dudley and Benjamin Tufts are Elders belonging to this Quarterly Meeting, but live in the state of Ohio. They were formerly from Maine.

#### Pennsylvania and New-York Yearly Meeting

Is holden the first Saturday and Sabbath of September, annually. Of this meeting our knowledge is very imperfect; but understand it is small.

#### FOR THE INFORMER.

Copy of a letter to the editor, from Br. Job Armstrong, Esq. dated at Gloucester, Nov. 16, 1824.

DEAR BROTHER,

I herewith send you the annual return of the R. I. Qr. Meeting. It will be seen that this q. m. is still apparently prospering in the enlargement of its borders and increase of its members. Two churches were added to it at the last q. m. The church in Foster has been raised up within a few months past under the instrumentality of Elder Daniel Williams, whose labors have been and still are much blessed by the Divine Master. Five have been added to that church by baptism since their return to the q. m. Present

number 50—and the prospect still remains good that many more will repair to the Ark of safety.

Elder Josiah Graves, Pastor of the church in Middletown, Conn. attended the last q. m. in behalf of said church, which then became connected with this q. m. and Elder Graves received the right hand of fellowship as a minister of the Gospel; and we may reasonably expect an enlargement of the Redeemer's kingdom in that region, where a free gospel is now freely dispensed; and probably the day is near at hand, when a Quarterly Meeting, with its several churches, shall be established in that region also.

But, Dear Brother, though increase in number be a just subject of rejoicing to the christian, may we be careful to rejoice only as christians ought to rejoice, and let the carnal mind have no part nor lot in the matter.

The next q. m. is appointed at Smithfield, on the 2d Sabbath in January next and Saturday preceding. The Elders' conference the Friday before at Br. William Swan's in Smithfield.

Your brother in Christ,

JOB ARMSTRONG

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FOR THE INFORMER.

*Extract of a letter from Elder Oliver True, dated at South Williamson, N. Y. Nov. 17, 1824.*

DEAR BROTHER,

I take my pen to inform you, that through the tender mercies of the Lord, I am yet alive; but have been in a low state since last March, and often in despair of ever recovering my health again. I have however, so far recovered, that I have just returned from a tour of two months to the west, in which I visited the towns of Bloomfield, Rochester, and Batavia, in all of which, there is a great attention to hear the word, and in Bloomfield, a glorious work of God is going on. In Palmyra, Lyons, and Ontario, also, the work of the Lord is progressing as in many other places in this western clime, to the joy of thousands. I think the prospect increases in favor of Zion.

My good brother David Marks passed here in my absence, and I saw him at Bloomfield in good health.

Although I am able to preach but little, my mind is fixed with an unshaken confidence in God, and that gospel I have

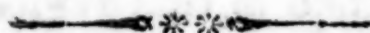
ever published to the world, which I have never seen cause to alter. Truth, like a pearl, shines brighter by being discovered, but never changes:

"The worth of which no tongue can tell;  
" 'Twill do to buy but not to sell."

May the Great Head of the Church make us *holy and happy*, and assist us to follow the stream, till we arrive at the fountain head and land our little barks in the haven of eternal repose.

Yours, &c.

OLIVER TRUE.



FOR THE INFORMER.

### REVIVALS.

A letter is received from Br. Kilburn Hill of Shelburne, Vt. in which he writes, that the work of the Lord is progressing in that vicinity, and that the labors of Br. Ewers are blessed to the conversion of souls.

He mentions an interesting circumstance of a sister, who was baptized on Sunday, the 15th of November, and her husband, who was not a professor of religion, on seeing his wife go down into the water, it had such an effect on him, that he immediately devoted his time to prayer, and before the next day, his soul was set at liberty, and on Tuesday following, was baptized by Elder Webster, and went on his way rejoicing.

We have information that Elder Elisha Collins has been sick during some months past, but is now able again to sound free salvation. He says a great door is open in the county of Allegany, N. Y. and laborers are wanted there.

Brother James Peters of Wayne, Ohio, has written a very pressing request, for some preacher or preachers to come to the state of Ohio to labor. He is now preaching in four towns on the Sabbath, and has many calls in other towns, some of which he is able to attend on week days. He says the prospect is very encouraging, numbers have of late been converted, and mourners come forward in almost every meeting to be prayed for.

Brother John Reed of Phelps, N. Y. writes that a glorious work of reformation has commenced in the north part of Phelps, under the improvement of Eld. B. Farley. Eight have been baptized, and there is a prospect that a church will be gathered there soon.

The Benton Quarterly Meeting was holden in Sodus, the 9th and 10th of October last. The writer says, "We had a good meeting, the Great Head of the Church took the government of the meeting, while the melting love of Jesus seemed to fill every heart."

Benton Q. Meeting will be holden next at Vienna Village, Phelps, N. Y. on Saturday before the second Sabbath in January, at 10 o'clock A. M. Elders' Conference, Friday before, at the dwelling house of Br. John Chapman, at two o'clock P. M.

In a communication made by Elder Asa Dodge of Troy, Pa. he closes as follows:

"I will just observe that our Quarterly Meetings [Owego] have been refreshing during the year past, and souls are daily flocking to the bloodstained banner of King Jesus in these regions. I hope soon to have the pleasure of writing to you more fully of the work of God in these parts."

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*Account of a remarkable sermon, preached in Edinburgh.*

Some time ago, I was sent for to visit a person named Adam Watson, who was thought to be dying. On entering his apartment, I saw a venerable looking old man in a chair, and apparently much distressed from a difficulty in breathing. His daughter told me that he was then a good deal fatigued with the exertion of rising out of bed, but that he would be able to speak to me in a little time. Being told who I was, he said to me after a short pause, "I am glad to see you, Sir, and thank you for coming so readily to visit me in this poor habitation." I then asked him a few questions about his bodily health; these he shortly answered, and then said, you see me, sir, on the verge of eternity; but I bless God I have no fears of death. I hope I can truly say, "I know in whom I have believed;" and my chief reason for sending for you at present is to help me praise the Lord for his great and wonderful mercies to me." "What mercies do you mean?" said I. "I mean his great and wonderful mercies in Christ Jesus. I am now an old man, in my 84th year, and blessed be his name, I can say, I have known the Lord since I was eighteen." "Since you were eighteen! pray did any thing remarkable happen at that time that you remember it so particularly?" "Yes, yes," said he "something I shall never forget while I am able to remember any thing, and for which I shall bless God through all eternity." "May I ask what it was?" "Certainly," he replied, "and when I get a little breath I will tell it you with pleasure." After pausing for 2 or 3 minutes, he spoke as nearly as I can remember, to the following purpose:

"When I was about eighteen years of age, I happened to be in Edinburgh, following my business. Though, I was not addicted to any gross immorality, I was a stranger to true religion. I had something like the form of Godliness, but it was nothing but a form. One Sunday I went to the West Church. It was about the time of dispensing the

Sacrament, and a minister by the name of Pitcairn was preaching. I shall never forget his text; it was in 1 Pet. ii. 7: 'Unto you, therefore, which believe, he is precious.' The church was exceedingly crowded, and the congregation very attentive. Nothing very particular happened till about the close of the discourse, when Mr. Pitcairn made a long pause. A dead stillness ensued. Every eye was fixed on him, and several of his hearers seemed to be a good deal agitated. When he resumed his discourse, he spoke, to the best of my recollection, nearly as follows: 'Last night, when I was on my knees before God, pleading with him in the prospect of this day's service, it was impressed on my mind in a very unusual manner, and as if had heard a voice from heaven, charging me that this day I should make a full and particular offer of Christ to all who hear me; and also, that I should require of them an immediate answer whether they would accept of the offer or not. I do, therefore, in the name of the Most High God, offer to all and every one of you the Lord Jesus Christ, with all his benefits; I offer Him to the young and the old, to the rich and to the poor, to sinners of every kind and degree; assuring you, that if you accept of him as he is offered in the Gospel, you shall be blessed in time and blessed through eternity. Well what do you say? Do you accept of him or not? What answer am I to carry back to him whose servant I am? Consider the matter and make up your minds.'—On saying this, he sat down in the pulpit, and the most solemn silence followed that ever I witnessed. I was very much affected, and the tears ran down my cheeks in abundance. My sins crowded into my mind. I saw myself to be a lost and ruined creature, and was enabled to cast my soul on Jesus Christ, believing that he, and none but he, could save me. On looking up, I saw many persons in tears around me.

"Mr. Pitcairn continued sitting, I think, about five or six minutes; then rising up, and looking round the congregation, he said to them with great solemnity, 'Well my friends, what is your determination? Are you now willing to obey the command of God, to believe in his SON JESUS CHRIST? Do you accept of the Saviour as he is offered in the Gospel, and give yourselves up to him, as God has commanded, that he may wash you in his blood, clothe you with his righteousness, and sanctify you by his Spirit? Or, on the contrary, do you proudly and wickedly reject him? Or, which amounts very much to the same thing, are you resolved to delay this important business to a more convenient season?—Then in a very earnest and forcible manner, he urged his hearers immediately to accept of Christ, and to comply with the invitations of the Gospel. In the name of God he conjured them neither to decline nor to delay so important a duty. 'Many,' said he, 'to whom the same offer was made are now in hell, bitterly lamenting their guilt and folly in rejecting it. And, O! were they permitted now to address you, with what earnestness would they beseech you to beware of what must assuredly bring you to that place where they are tormented! (Luke xvi. 28.) Many of your pious friends and relations who lately worshipped with us in this place, were enabled through grace to accept of Christ, and to give themselves up to him, and are now before the throne; and were they permitted to address you, O! with what earnestness would they join in the exhortation I am now giving you, and beseech you to accept of Christ, that you may by and by be united to their blest society, and made partakers of their joy.—In this manner

Mr. Pitcairn exhorted and beseeched his hearers to comply with the calls of the Gospel, and to embrace the Lord Jesus Christ. It was the most solemn season I ever witnessed. It was much spoken of in Edinburgh and its neighborhood, and many dated their conversion from that day. The old man added, that he himself knew several persons who were then awakened to a serious and lasting concern about their salvation; and no doubt, as he justly observed, there would be many of whom he had no opportunity of hearing.

I was surprised at the distinctness and animation with which the poor old man narrated the above particulars. His weakness and difficulty of breathing obliged him to stop from time to time, but the whole circumstances seemed to be as fresh in his recollection as if they had lately occurred. As soon as I returned home, I wrote down all I could remember of what he told me; and, from the deep impression it made on my mind, I believe that I remembered the greatest part of it. I soon called on him again, but found him worse. He was unable to rise, and though perfectly sensible, he had become so deaf, that it was almost impossible to make him hear. He continued tranquil and resigned to the will of God; and enjoyed to the last a steady hope in the divine mercy through Jesus Christ.—*Methodist Magazine.*

*From Zion's Herald.*

#### THE SEA CAPTAIN.

A Captain who had followed the seas for several years, about the commencement of the last war, went to Richmond, Virginia.

A few days after his arrival, having accomplished his business except with one merchant, who lived a little distance from the city—he made some preparations and went out to see him. He was introduced to the counting-room of the merchant, and soon accomplished his business. After which, the merchant enquired of the Captain how long he had been engaged in sea-fairing business. The captain replied, about 20 years. Indeed, says the merchant, you have devoted quite a portion of your useful days to a very hazardous occupation; although you, (no doubt) have had the privilege of seeing much of the world. Yes, replied the captain, I have been in most of the ports in Europe, and I never sailed for any port yet, but what I found it. *I would enquire of you, sir,* said the merchant, *whether you ever sailed for the port of Heaven?* The captain was speechless, and made no reply. The merchant instructed the captain immediately to clear out from the customs of this world, and sail for the port of Heaven. And I pray, says he, that you may be as successful, in finding that port as you have formerly been in finding others. They then parted. The captain returned to his vessel and his occupation. A few years after this, the captain, who had acquired a handsome property, retired from the seas, and settled in the town of \*\*\*\*\* In his retired moments, he often thought of the advice of the merchant. His sun having past the meridian, and being on its decline, he concluded there was no time to be lost. He accordingly entered upon the important voyage, and every day for four weeks he experienced a dreadful gale; his vessel and life were in jeopardy every hour. One day he was overlooking his reckoning, and found he had made an error in the trail, and that he was out of his latitude entirely. He run to his chart to examine, and make some calculation how he might escape:—after which, on examination,

He found his vessel had sprung a leak; and he saw nothing but destruction before him. He was obliged to abandon both vessel and cargo, and take to the boat and oar. And while examining his chart, he turned to look for the old vessel, when he saw her go down. After which he experienced a pleasant calm. Then looking ahead, he saw a vessel heave in sight, which he made for. On coming along side, he found it was the ship of ZION bound to CANAAN. The captain cheerfully took him on board, and all the crew rejoiced at his happy deliverance. He has continued under full sail ever since, and rejoices in the hope of entering, ere long, the haven of unruffled repose. I have enjoyed many a precious meeting with the captain, since he took passage in the ZION. His three children, his wife's family, and, in short, his whole household are now on board, which makes the passage pleasant and delightful beyond description. The captain often expresses a desire to see the merchant, (who he says was a Methodist) and he anticipates much pleasure in meeting him at the end of the voyage.

Providence, Feb. 26, 1824.

SHIPMATE.

#### TO THE PUBLIC.

This number closes the 5th volume of the Religious Informer, and I am far from being weary of publishing the good tidings of salvation, but believe that through the medium of the Informer, the hearts of my brethren have often been made glad. By this work, we can become acquainted with each other, and it is wished that the brethren would examine the accounts of the q. m's. to which they belong, and if any thing is incorrect, that they would send information, and it shall be corrected in a future number.

I regret that through the neglect of a large number of subscribers I am still in debt to the paper maker, and cannot get money enough to pay his account. I wish my patrons would consider the subject, and as they wish well to the work, that they would forward the amount due from them, so that the editor may be relieved from this embarrassment.

Those, indebted for two years and upwards, need not expect any more papers until arrearages are paid, and it is hoped that will take place soon. Such as have punctually paid, receive my sincere thanks.

EDITOR.

In this No. the name of our worthy, faithful, and well-beloved brother, Elder Richard Martin of Gilford, N. H. is left out. He was called suddenly to depart this life; but the memory of his services will remain in the minds of thousands, and though we mourn our loss, we believe it is his immortal gain.

DIED.—In Weare. Nov. 15, Wid. Mary Cram, aged 70; and on the 17th, Mrs. Luna, wife of Mr. Issachar Ring, aged 18 years.—In Boston, Mr. Harvey French of Haverhill, N. H.—Drowned in Connecticut river, near Haverhill, N. H. Nov. 20, Mr. James Sturtevant, aged 20.—In New-London, N. H. a child of Mr. John Currier, aged 2 years.

#### NO CONTENTMENT WITHOUT CHRIST.

All those who seek contentment and perfect satisfaction in any creature, in themselves, are like the man of Shechem, who forsook the sweetness of the fig-tree and of the vine, for the bramble which constr

# RELIGIOUS INFORMER.

ENFIELD, N. H. PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY EBENEZER CHASE.

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All letters must be directed to Ebenezer Chase, P. M. Enfield, N. H.

Vol. V. No. 1. JANUARY, 1824. Whole No. 49.

## The New Year.

*"Time flies, O how swiftly!"*

How more we hail each other on a New Year's morning, that gratitude ought to fill our hearts and thankfulness to the Father of Mercies for the signal favors

The New Year bestowed upon us.

Rhode-Island the commencement of the past year, how many Letter from to their long homes, who began the year with as do. Respect of life as any of us. This should remind us Revivals of R General Meeting taint of our lives, and the necessity of being Juvenile Expositions death.

Rules for holy living table time to examine ourselves. How have Meekness and Passions the past year? If we have taken an

Comments by D. Marks poor, if we have neglected to warn the Character of Charles Deaths er, or if we have neglected any duty

Letter from Eld. Caverno performed, it is important now  
 " Eld. S. F. Whitte fruits of repentance, by restoring  
 " Eld. J. Farwell have unjustly taken away  
 " Eld. H. Jenkins which we have  
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Providence, Feb. 26, 1824.

SHIPMASTER

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